

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000100030027-8

ON
(79)

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JPRS L/8324

9 March 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON JAPAN
(FOUO 7/79)

ASIA

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BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA SHEET		1. Report No. JPRS L/8324	2.	3. Recipient's Accession No.
4. Title and Subtitle TRANSLATIONS ON JAPAN , (FOUO 7/79)		5. Report Date 9 March 1979		
7. Author(s)		6.		
9. Performing Organization Name and Address Joint Publications Research Service 1000 North Glebe Road Arlington, Virginia 22201		8. Performing Organization Rept. No.		
12. Sponsoring Organization Name and Address As above		10. Project/Task/Work Unit No.		
		11. Contract/Grant No.		
		13. Type of Report & Period Covered		
		14.		
15. Supplementary Notes				
16. Abstracts The report contains press and radio coverage on political, economic, military, sociological, scientific and technological developments.				
17. Key Words and Document Analysis. 17a. Descriptors JAPAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political and Sociological <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science and Technology				
17b. Identifiers/Open-Ended Terms				
17c. COSATI Field/Group 5C, 5D, 5K, 15C, 16D, 18I, 19F, 22B				
18. Availability Statement For Official Use Only. Limited Number of Copies Available From JPRS.		19. Security Class (This Report) UNCLASSIFIED		21. No. of Pages 47
		20. Security Class (This Page) UNCLASSIFIED		22. Price

FORM NTIS-88 (10-70)

USCOMM-DC 40328-P71

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CONTENTS

PAGE

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

'ASAHI' Urges PRC To Withdraw Troops From Vietnam (Editorial; ASAHI EVENING NEWS, 21 Feb 79)	1
'DAILY YOMIURI' on 'Serious Twist' to Indochina Situation (AFP, 19 Feb 79)	3
Fukuda Revives Factional Activities (Takehiko Takahashi; MAINICHI DAILY NEWS, 14 Feb 79) .	4
Japanese Show Renewed Interest in Senkaku Islands (Various sources, various dates)	6
Beijing Radio Mention Japan To Build a Heliport	
Performance of Parties in Gubernatorial Elections Critiqued (Editorial; MAINICHI DAILY NEWS, 7 Feb 79)	8
JPS Reports on JCP Central Committee Plenum 6-7 Feb (JPS, 7 Feb 79)	11
'YOMIURI' Poll Shows Public Supports Ohira Cabinet (THE DAILY YOMIURI, 27 Jan 79)	12
'MAINICHI' Comments on First LDP Convention Under Ohira (Editorial; MAINICHI DAILY NEWS, 26 Jan 79)	14
'ASAHI' Urges Going Slow on 'Imperial Era Name' Bill (Editorial; ASAHI EVENING NEWS, 7 Feb 79)	16
Report on JCP Chairman Miyamoto's Speech at CC Plenum (JPS, 7, 8 Feb 79)	18
Opening Remarks Conclusion of Speech	

- a -

[III - ASIA - 111 FOUO]

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CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Briefs	
Japan-SRV Friendship Association	22
ECONOMIC	
PRC Wants Japanese Intermediaries for Trade With Taiwan (NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN, 3 Feb 79)	23
MITI Says U.S.-Japan Trade Trend Reversing (MAINICHI DAILY NEWS, 9 Feb 79)	25
'MAINICHI': Japan Concerned About PRC Trade Policy (MAINICHI SHINBUN, 22 Feb 79)	30
Kansai Electric Power Survey on Prospects to Year 2000 (NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN, 9, 10 Jan 79)	32
Nature and Results of Survey Tabulated Responses to Survey	
Briefs	
Iraq Degassing Plants	43
Singapore Refinery Expansion	43
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL	
Bubble Method Reclaims Seabed Metallic Resources (THE JAPAN TIMES, 19 Feb 79)	44
Briefs	
Light Aircraft Industry	45

- b -

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

'ASAHI' URGES PRC TO WITHDRAW TROOPS FROM VIETNAM

Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 21 Feb 79 p 2 OW

[Editorial: "Peace Up to China"]

[Text] It is said that the Chinese invasion of Vietnam is probably no more than a limited military action. However, the jolt and the scare which the Chinese incursion has given the world are big, and tension in Asia is mounting.

In a statement reported by the XINHUA on Sunday, Beijing cited Vietnam's border violations and acts of provocation as reasons for its intrusion. Whatever the reasons, however, the use of peaceful means to settle international disputes is a basic principle upheld in the United Nations Charter.

Japan, particularly, which has a peace constitution renouncing war, cannot approve of such a military action.

In their treaty of peace and friendship, Japan and China pledged that they would oppose attempts by other countries to establish hegemonism. If this spirit of antihegemonism is to be taken in a universal sense, restricting specific countries only as objects of antihegemonism and attempting to control other countries on the argument that "if you invade, we will do the same without fail" will mean a manifestation of hegemonism.

During the Vietnam war, we maintained that the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam was a condition essential for peace in the area. Just because China and Vietnam are socialist countries, there is no reason for one of them to invade the other. If foreign troops remain in the three Indo-chinese states, all of them should withdraw to their home countries.

In a dispute between two nations, a big power is called upon to exercise stronger self-control than the other. It is necessary for China first to halt military action, pull out its troops and adopt a peaceful stance for settlement of the dispute through talks. By doing so, Beijing may be able to avert being hit as chauvinistic.

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China is giving "self-defense" as the reason for dispatching its troops to Vietnam. Discernible in this reason is Beijing's stand that it is not seriously considering leaving its troops in Vietnam.

If that is so, Beijing will make it easy for Hanoi to sit at the conference table by taking the lead in withdrawing its troops from Vietnam. We wonder if it is not possible, in the course of the hoped-for negotiations, to eliminate one by one the various problems, including the situation in which Vietnamese troops are said remaining in Cambodia and other places.

Meanwhile, like the pact between Vietnam and Laos, the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation concluded by Hanoi recently with the new Cambodian Government under Heng Samrin, there is a clause (Article 2) hinting that Vietnamese troops will remain in Cambodia. Hanoi should refrain from keeping its troops in Cambodia, which will intensify tension, and from making impetuous moves, such as concluding "special relations" like those proposed for the talked-about Indochinese Federation.

Further, the country which we earnestly hope will act with prudence is the Soviet Union. Moscow, which concluded a treaty of friendship and cooperation with Hanoi, has come out with a statement that it will observe the obligations in the Russo-Vietnamese pact. It is because of this that the U.S. is concerned over possible clashes on the Sino-Russo border.

If the Soviet Union, by using armed force, checks the Chinese incursion into Vietnam, the conflict may escalate as the two powers, seeking to "punish" each other, step up their responses to maintain their prestige.

To cope with this new crisis, Japan should strongly demand that the countries involved make efforts for peace, muster international endeavors for long-term stability in Southeast Asia and help shape world public opinion opposing all military action. If the UN Security Council is to be opened, we want Japan to call on China and the Soviet Union not to invoke the veto right merely for their own convenience, and to make efforts so that the permanent members of the council will concur in their views.

Japan should not, even in the slightest degree, lean to one camp. It should play its international role by promoting peace to settle the dispute.

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'DAILY YOMIURI' ON 'SERIOUS TWIST' TO INDOCHINA SITUATION

Hong Kong AFP in English 0547 GMT 19 Feb 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 19 Feb (AFP)--THE DAILY YOMIURI in today's editorial said "Chinese military incursion into Vietnam on Saturday has given a serious twist to the situation in Indochina as it comes on the heels of Vietnamese intervention into Cambodia."

The newspaper said "Before the armed actions of the two countries threaten peace in Asia we urge both Beijing and Hanoi to withdraw their forces to their sides of the borders as soon as possible."

"The Vietnamese Government has asked for an emergency meeting of the U.S. [sic] Security Council to discuss the Chinese attack and at the same time requested the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for aid."

"China has claimed that its attack against Vietnam is 'a restricted defensive counterattack to check Vietnamese armed provocations which numbered 700 in the past six months and which were backed by the Soviet Union.'"

The daily said, "Considering the military power of the Vietnamese armed forces, we (?say) that the China-Vietnam clashes might develop into a bigger conflict than the Sino-Indian border clashes in 1965." "Should the China-Vietnam armed conflict drag on, there is a strong possibility of Laos and later Thailand being pulled into the deadly drama that would eventually threaten the security and stability of the member states of the Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN)."

"There is also a possibility that the China-Vietnam conflict might have an adverse effect on the just-opened reunification negotiations between North and South Korea."

"We are now concerned about what action the Soviet Union will take since it has signed a 15-year friendship and cooperation treaty with Vietnam. The treaty stipulates that the two nations will consult each other in the event of either of the two countries being involved in an armed conflict with a third country."

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3
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FUKUDA REVIVES FACTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 14 Feb 79 p 4

[Article by Takehiko Takahashi: "Aim of Fukuda Faction's 'Seiwakai'"]

[Text]

A view that has become common in the political world is that "the Ohira administration is likely to continue for a long time—and the reason is that there is no presidential candidate strong enough to threaten him."

Concerning this, Chief Cabinet Secretary Rokusuke Tanaka remarks that "I have been telling Prime Minister Ohira not to be complacent about a long-continuing administration. There is the possibility in next year's party presidential election of a challenge by Takeo Fukuda and Takeo Miki who are both former LDP presidents."

Former Prime Minister Miki was not a candidate in last year's presidential election. But Toshio Komoto of the Miki faction was a candidate. If former Prime Minister Fukuda runs in the next party presidential election, the possibility exists that this will induce Miki to become a candidate also.

What are former Prime Minister Fukuda and the Fukuda faction thinking about at the present moment?

At the time of the Ohira Cabinet's formation, Prime Minister Ohira sought to appoint Zenko Suzuki as the chief cabinet secretary.

Because of strong objection raised by the Fukuda faction, a change was made to the present Suzuki. Since both Saito and Suzuki are members of the Ohira faction, the Fukuda faction agreed on Saito's appointment on the condition that it would be "for the time being."

Following the resignation of Shigeru Hori, speaker of the House of Representatives, Prime Minister Ohira recommended Hajime Fukuda as successor. The Takeo Fukuda faction objected, giving as the reason that Hajime Fukuda assisted in creating conditions advantageous for Ohira at the time of the presidential election. As the result, Hirokichi Nadao, who is close to the Fukuda faction, became the speaker of the House of Representatives.

In this way, ever since the Fukuda cabinet relinquished power, the Fukuda faction has resisted nearly everything that

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the Ohira administration has tried to do. For this resistance to be effective, strength is necessary. This strength is built up by factional solidarity.

This is commonsense in the world of politics, irrespective of whether it is good or bad. Prime Minister Ohira was well aware of this. When former Prime Minister Fukuda advocated the dissolution of factions and took the lead in doing so, Ohira retained his own faction to prepare for the party presidential election. And he succeeded.

In order to cope with this attitude of Prime Minister Ohira, Fukuda has revived factional activities. With Fukuda attending, a meeting of "sponsors" was held and the "Seiwakai" was born.

Two Committees

The Liberal-Democratic Party has a "Headquarters for Promoting Reform of Party Politics" with LDP President Ohira as the director. A "Headquarters for Reform of Party Politics" has been set up in the Seiwakai also, headed by former Prime Minister Fukuda. Similar to the LDP's Headquarters for Promoting Reform, the Seiwakai's Headquarters for Reform of Party Politics also has two committees.

A faction that is more systematic than any of the others has come into being. In one sense, it might be regarded as "a party within a party." Former Prime Minister Fukuda was at one time an earnest advocate of the dissolution of factions. Why has he now formed a tightly-knit faction that can be called "a party within a party"?

This is at the back of the opinion expressed by Chief

Cabinet Secretary Tanaka that "there is the possibility of a challenge by both Fukuda and Miki in next year's party presidential election."

Fukuda himself had not expected defeat in the election. Outwardly he is showing a cool attitude about having had to withdraw from the premiership but inwardly he is not quite that indifferent.

Moreover, upon looking at the party's internal situation, there is the calculation that in case Prime Minister Ohira runs into some unexpected obstruction and is forced to resign, the only way to settle the political situation would be for a Fukuda administration to reappear on the scene. For this, it is necessary for Fukuda to remain as the active leader of his faction.

Otherwise the problem will come up as to who to enter as a candidate from the Fukuda faction in next year's party presidential election. Former Chief Cabinet Secretary Shintaro Abe is the representative of the Seiwakai but the faction is not yet unified about recommending Abe.

Accordingly, unless the faction reaches unity on Abe by that time, the only way to provide for party solidarity would be for Fukuda himself to run again.

When a faction dissolves, the ones who must worry the most are the Diet members who belonged to it. Thus, for the sake of self-defense, Diet members belonging to the Fukuda faction are seeking its solidarity.

All in all, this is an influential aggregation that Prime Minister Ohira must consider as being quite troublesome.

(The writer is an adviser to The Mainichi Newspapers and former chief editorial writer).

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5

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JAPANESE SHOW RENEWED INTEREST IN SENKAKU ISLANDS

Beijing Radio Mention

Tokyo YOMIURI SHINBUN in Japanese 28 Jan 79 p 3 OW

[Text] Tokyo (Radio Press)--At 1815 [0315 GMT] Japan time on 27 January, Beijing [Peking] Radio in its program "Various Parts of the Motherland" introduced Taiwan under the title [beautiful and affluent Taiwan." Touching on Diaoyudao [Tiaoyutao] (the Chinese name for the Senkaku Islands), the radio said: "Over 100 large and small islands, including the Penghu and Diaoyudao Islands, encircle Taiwan like pearls inlaid on a tray."

(WOMIURI editor's note: Concerning the question of ownership of the Senkaku Islands, during his visit to Japan last October to attend the signing ceremony for the Japan-China peace and friendship treaty, Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-ping] expressed the desire to temporarily shelve the issue for solution by the next generation. The 27 January broadcast is the first official Chinese report to mention the Senkaku Islands since Deng made his remarks. On 16 January, Transport Minister Moriyama disclosed a Maritime Safety Agency plan to build a heliport in the Senkaku Islands. In this context, this reference to Diaoyudao by Beijing Radio deserves our attention.)

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Japan to Build a Heliport

Tokyo ASAHI SHINBUN in Japanese 16 Jan 79 p 1

[Excerpt] Tokyo, 16 Jan--On 16 Jan 79, the Ministry of Transportation disclosed that the Maritime Safety Agency plans to build facilities that include a heliport, a light house, and a port of shelter in the Senkaku Islands. These facilities are to accommodate those investigators sent by the government, and it will be built strictly for temporary use. The Transportation Minister Moriyama stressed that the government has no intention of building fuel storage tanks and other such facilities. Considering the persistent rough seas surrounding the island during the

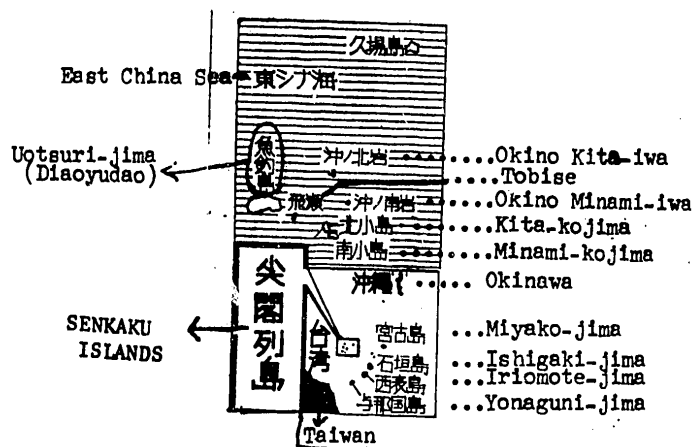
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winter, the agency plans to start construction this spring when the ocean calms down. The minister added that this matter has already been cleared with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Uotsuri Jima (Senkaku Islands)



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PERFORMANCE OF PARTIES IN GUBERNATORIAL ELECTIONS CRITIQUED

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 7 Feb 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Low-Key Gubernatorial Elections"]

[Text]

The seven gubernatorial elections held recently have indicated a remarkable recovery of conservative strength, in contrast with miserable achievements by the opposition forces, especially the Japan Socialist Party. A similar trend was seen in mayoral and other elections in other prefectures.

Of the seven elections (in Aomori, Aichi, Ishikawa, Kumamoto, Ehime, Nara and Yamanashi), the ruling party lost Yamanashi due to an intra-party feud which saw some of its members supporting an opposition candidate.

In Ehime, Aomori, Ishikawa and Kumamoto, the Liberal-Democratic Party won elections on its own strength, and the LDP won landslide victories in Nara (with support from the Democratic Socialist Party) and in Aichi (with middle-of-the-road support).

On the contrary, the Socialist Party has suffered "defaults" in five prefectures in the latest elections.

Such an attitude can be termed apathetic when compared with the Japan Communist Party, which ran its own candidates in all of these elections. As a result, the Socialist Party will have to face criticism that the No. 1 opposition party "does not exist" in a sense.

Disorder in the progressive front in the gubernatorial elections, especially the apathy of the Socialist Party, eliminated a sense of tension from the election campaign, resulting in low voter turnout in many of these prefectures.

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In Ehime, Nara and Aomori, voting rates were the lowest in the history of gubernatorial elections there. In mayoral elections in Kita-Kyushu and Tottori held Sunday, new records for low voter turn-outs were reported. Except for the Yamanashi gubernatorial election, which was believed to have been rather heated, the tendency toward lower voting rates was seen in many local elections.

In some areas, candidates have been elected without competition because they gained supra-partisan supports. The Shiga gubernatorial election held last year was an example. A total of 69 mayors, or 36 percent of the total, were elected without competition last year, and six out of 19 mayors were also chosen this way in January of this year.

Under the prolonged economic recession and financial straits, local autonomies under progressive leaders have encountered many difficulties, and the distinction between progressive and conservative local autonomies has blurred. We do not believe, however, that a rapid increase in the number of local autonomous heads chosen uncontested is a welcome trend for the healthy development of local autonomy.

It is often said that we are now living in an "era of local autonomy," indicating the importance of increased participation by the people in local administration. In spite of that, we have witnessed an abnormal trend in recent elections. The heaviest responsibility for causing such a trend must be born by political parties, which must protect local autonomy.

The Liberal-Democratic Party, in supporting a candidate who enjoys backing from the Communist Party, and the Socialist Party, in not fielding its own candidates, are jointly responsible for these apathetic local elections.

We call for local elections in which plural candidates, with practical policies to cope with local administration, will vie in winning support from the voters.

We hope that the opposition forces, especially the Socialist Party, will not engage in futile ideological confrontation, and will clearly show their anti-Liberal-Democratic Party stances while engaging in daily activities aimed at true local autonomy, and in educating their members who will assume leading positions in the future.

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The opposition forces' idea that conservative-progressive distinctions should not be applied to local autonomies cannot compete with the conservative forces' idea that local autonomy must be directly connected to national politics.

As long as such a concept is accepted, the progressive forces will steadily lose elections. In the unified local elections in April, some 2,700 offices will be contested, in two rounds of voting. We hope that both the Liberal Democratic Party and the opposition parties will earnestly wrestle with the problems.

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JPS REPORTS ON JCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM 6-7 FEB

Tokyo JPS in English 0850 GMT 7 Feb 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 7 Feb (JPS)--The Sixth Central Committee Plenum of the Japanese Communist Party ended on 7 February. After the two-day session the Central Committee Secretariat issued that day a communique "On the Sixth Central Committee Plenum," the communique says: (GIST)

The plenum was opened by Sanzo Nosaka, chairman of the Central Committee.

At the beginning of the session, Presidium Chairman Kenji Miyamoto gave a speech of greetings and spoke on behalf of the presidium.

On behalf of the presidium, chief of the secretariat Tetsuzo Fuwa presented the party work report on party activity since the Fifth Plenum and on immediate tasks. He also explained the decisions of the presidium on the promotion of the drive for victory in the simultaneous local elections, centering on the three tasks, including the expansion of the organ paper readership.

In the plenum, deliberation was held on the presidium chairman's address, the secretariat chief's party work report and the decisions of the presidium.

After the discussions, Presidium Chairman Kenji Miyamoto made concluding remarks in the name of the presidium. The plenum unanimously approved Presidium Chairman Miyamoto's speech delivered at the beginning of the session, the party work report, the decisions of the presidium and the concluding remarks.

In the plenum, Vice-Presidium Chairman Tomio Nishizawa made a report on current international problems. His report was unanimously approved.

The plenum unanimously adopted a resolution "let us take the lead in the struggle for counterattacks on the reactionary policies of the Ohira cabinet."

The plenum unanimously adopted a statement, "legislation on the imperial era name runs counter to people's sovereignty and culture."

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'YOMIURI' POLL SHOWS PUBLIC SUPPORTS OHIRA CABINET

Tokyo THE DAILY YOMIURI in English 27 Jan 79 p 1 OW

[Text] The Ohira cabinet had a 41.6 percent rate of support in a YOMIURI SHIMBUN survey conducted on 20-21 January throughout the country.

This is about the same support rate that the Miki cabinet, which was formed when Kakuei Tanaka stepped down after a monetary scandal in 1975 had when his government was newly formed.

According to the survey conducted on 3,000 people selected at random throughout the country, nonsupporters of the Ohira cabinet amounted to 31.4 percent.

Past rates of support and nonsupport at the start of former cabinets are as follows.

The Sato cabinet formed in 1964 had 33.2 percent for and 16.4 percent against, Tanaka cabinet in 1972 60.5 percent and 9.1 percent, Miki cabinet in 1975 42.5 percent and 27.2 percent, and Fukuda cabinet in 1977 27.3 percent and 38.0 percent.

The Fukuda cabinet, predecessor of the Ohira cabinet, had a rate of non-support always larger than the rate of support in Yomiuri Shimbun surveys.

Among supporters of the Ohira cabinet, 24.4 percent of them said they support it because it is a Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) government while 19 percent said they like Ohira.

Only 7 percent and 3.6 percent of them mentioned respectively support for the economic policy and diplomatic policy of the Ohira cabinet.

Regarding the reasons for nonsupport, 29 percent replied they can expect nothing from this government and 17.5 percent expressed their dissatisfaction with its economic policy.

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As the most urgent matters to be tackled by the Ohira cabinet in the domestic field, 55.7 percent replied the stability of prices, and restoring the economy followed with 44.3 percent.

Diplomatically, efforts by the government for international currency stability was listed as the most urgent matter with 33.3 percent, while development of Japan-China friendship took second most urgent position with 29.5 percent.

Asked about their support for political parties, 43.4 percent listed the LDP, 10.7 percent the Socialist Party (JSP), 3.6 percent the Komeito, 2.6 percent the Democratic-Socialist Party (DSP), 2.5 percent the Communist Party (JCP), 1.4 percent the new Liberal Club (NLC), and 0.2 percent the United Social Democratic Party (USD).

When these rates are compared with the result of a survey in November last year, the supporting rates for the LDP, Komeito and the JCP increased slightly while the other parties had a setback in support.

Imperial Era Bill

Asao Mihara, director-general of the administrative management agency, said Friday the government would submit a bill for numbering years by names of eras to the Diet 2 February.

Mihara told newsmen the government did not want the bill to be an issue between the ruling and opposition parties.

Opposition parties oppose the proposed legislation on grounds it suggests the rule of the nation by the emperor.

Government officials said the wording of the bill would be revised to avoid the impression of imperial rule of the nation.

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'MAINICHI' COMMENTS ON FIRST LDP CONVENTION UNDER OHIRA

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 26 Jan 79 p 2 OW

[Editorial: "LCP Convention]

[Text] The Liberal-Democratic Party has held its first party convention under the leadership of Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira. The new action policy adopted at the convention emphasized "politics based on trust and consensus." Regarding practical measures, the action policy called for an "expansion of the party membership to three million," "active implementation of dialogue with persons in regional areas," and "creation of a Japanese-style welfare society based on a comfortable life." Such contents reflect the way of thinking of Prime Minister Ohira.

In his report at the convention, Party Secretary General Kunikichi Saito emphasized the recent achievements of the ruling party--the election of the party president by 1.5 million regular and associate members; favorable results for the party in the election of local prefectural heads; and restoration of the LDP's popularity in various public polls.

Isn't it a bit too early for the party to openly rejoice in this favorable trend, which some party officials term a "restoration of conservatism" in Japan? Judging from the series of failures in local elections by the progressive camp, the "restoration" seems to be apparent. It is also clear that the LDP demonstrated its vitality by winning over a large number of party members. Nevertheless, we still do not believe that the "favorable" trend means an active public trust and support for the ruling party.

It appears that the public supported conservative candidates in local elections in an effort to seek a relative stability in this age of uncertainty, highlighted by the prolonged economic recession. At the same time, the public obviously lost confidence in weak or unreliable opposition parties. The public has not forgotten the plutocratic predisposition or corrupt structure of the party which was exposed in the Lockheed scandal.

Under such circumstances, one item of urgency is that the LDP must do its utmost for party purification and reformation. Another concern is that it must earnestly respond to the people's needs and concentrate its energy on party activities in anticipation of new public demands.

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We understand that as a political party, the LDP must win as many party members as possible, because with the expansion of its strength, the party can win more elections and gain stronger financial backing. It is sometimes said that the party could win a membership of three or even four million because of the strenuous efforts of respective intraparty factions to win as many faction members as possible.

We do not believe that a mere expansion of party membership is a welcome phenomenon for the party. We do not think that an over-reliance of numerical strength will lead to a strengthening of the party. It is recalled that during the campaign to increase the party membership last year, names of five-year-old children and in some extreme cases, names of cats and other pets were reportedly registered in the membership lists.

We do believe that an increase in the number of select members will strengthen the party structure and assist the expansion of party activities from a long-range viewpoint.

Current activities by factions to increase their membership may harm the party, and could be interpreted as a power struggle aimed at winning leadership in the party presidential election in the fall of 1980. There is also the possibility of a split in party opinion as was seen in the disputes over the revision of the constitution and also on the enactment of laws to cope with emergencies in the defense of Japan.

Some liberal-democrats adhere to the view that the life of a government can be prolonged as long as it does nothing, but such a way of thinking would delay the possible reformation of the party.

President Ohira earlier assumed the chairmanship of the "party reform promotion headquarters," which will examine the management of the party or rules on the party presidential election. The group will lose its substance, however, if it pays too much attention to each faction's opinion.

We believe that President Ohira will do his utmost for party reform by demonstrating his leadership and putting aside any possible desire to remain in his post as long as possible. The public hopes that each LDP member will improve his sense of ethics for the "purification" of the party.

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'ASAHI' URGES GOING SLOW ON 'IMPERIAL ERA NAME' BILL

Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 7 Feb 79 p 2 OW

[Editorial: "'GENGO' System Bill"]

[Text] The government has presented to parliament a bill for the "GENGO" (imperial era name) system which it is feared will create confrontation between the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party and the opposition parties in the current Diet. The bill is to give legal endorsement to the GENGO system and ensure that it continues.

However, there are intense arguments for and against legalizing the GENGO system. Among the political parties, the Japan Socialist Party and the Japan Communist Party are opposed to the legislation, claiming that it "deviates from the spirit of the constitution which says that sovereign power resides with the people." There are many who are sympathetic to these parties. It cannot be said that the move to legalize the system has national concurrence as its foundation. We cannot agree to the attempt to reach a conclusion in a hurry at such a stage.

The GENGO problem was raised about the time the emergency legislation question was brought up by the Fukuda cabinet. Strong concern arose among the people over the way the question was raised and the direction indicated by the Fukuda Government, which failed to consider the change in the times and the diverse opinions of the people. In this respect, the efforts made by the government in connection with the bill to aim for a wider agreement, by avoiding use of the expression "Issei Ichigen" (one era name for one reign), which has been deemed the cause of confrontation, indicate the posture of Prime Minister Ohira, who is hoisting "government through agreement" as his motto.

However, there are virtually no major alterations in the bill, although much ingenuity has been exerted in its wording. The bill says that the era name "shall be changed only in case there is a succession to the

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imperial throne," but this is putting "Issei Ichigen" in another way. It will not eliminate the contention that the legislation does not meet the spirit of the constitution which provides that sovereign power resides with the people.

The government explains that the "era name will be used by the state and local public entities but will not be forced on the people." It says that it will consider ways that will not lead to compulsion, even in cases where people object to inscribing the era name on documents at public office counters, pointing out that it will not be so different from the present. However, when we think that laws generally are binding in nature, we cannot say that there is no fear that the proposed law will be pressed on the people.

Unless backed by national consent, the era system will not continue in a practical sense, even if it is decided by law. From this standpoint, those concerned should be cautious about legislation. Without the maturing of nationwide discussion, it is not a question that should be left exposed in the arena of factional strife within the LDP and of confrontation between political parties.

We say this because the GENGO system exerts an influence far and wide, from the present to the future, over the daily life of the people, their social consciousness, their view of values and Japanese culture that will be passed on to the next generation. Problems should not be left for the next generation by legalizing the GENGO system. The problems of culture that are created age by age do not primarily adapt themselves to legislation.

We feel that, by keeping the change in the times and the change in generation in mind, we should take time and ascertain the direction the GENGO question will take, after being picked from diverse choices, before it settles down.

What we should be aware of on that occasion are that Japan's adaptation to international society will be sought increasingly and that the GENGO system will find its place as a "factual custom." Accordingly, one of the conceivable prudent choices is the nurturing of a common-age consciousness by introducing the christian era system--which is commonly in use throughout the world--more in daily life and in the official area and at the same time using the GENGO, with which the people have been familiar, in combination in a natural form.

A "gentle decision" on the GENGO by cabinet notification is possible. Ultimately, the matter could be left to the judgment of a new generation who have no specific image concerning eras, such as Meiji, Taisho and Showa.

We repeat that we want those concerned to consider the GENGO issue from historical and international viewpoints in a quiet atmosphere. It cannot be said yet that the time for that has fully ripened.

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

REPORT ON JCP CHAIRMAN MIYAMOTO'S SPEECH AT CC PLENUM

Opening Remarks

Tokyo JPS in English 0910 GMT 7 Feb 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 7 Feb (JPS)--Kenji Miyamoto, chairman of the Presidium of the Japanese Communist Party, gave an address and opening speech at the Sixth Plenum of the Central Committee of the party, which began on 6 February in Tokyo.

Chairman Miyamoto first said that the aim of the plenum is "to elucidate main characteristics of the situation and set out tasks after the Ohira cabinet came to office, and also to elaborate policies for the forthcoming simultaneous local elections and giro ourselves for victory."

Commenting on the stand of the Ohira cabinet on the investigation into the aircraft payoff scandals, Chairman Miyamoto assured again that "a Liberal Democratic Party government is a reactionary and corrupt government."

Failing to show any countermeasures to overcome the critical economic crisis, and playing up such abstract phrases as "welfare society of Japanese style," the Ohira cabinet is trying to impose low welfare and heavy burdens on the people, thus proving itself to be "a government destroying the family infrastructure," said Miyamoto.

On the issue of legislation on the imperial era name, Chairman Miyamoto denounced the two lies told by the government that "the public wants it" and that "it is not compulsory." Chairman Miyamoto shed light on the role being played by the Komei and Democratic Socialist Parties and the New Liberal Club, which stand for the legislation of the imperial era name, thus facilitating the reactionary designs.

After referring to party conventions held in January by some political parties, Chairman Miyamoto analyzed the so-called recent "recovery of the conservatives" situation. He concluded that this is not essential [as received] in history. He elucidated the significance of the formation of a broad democratic consensus to make a breakthrough from this situation.

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In this context Chairman Miyamoto pointed out the actual, up-to-date significance of the arrangement between the Communist Party and Sokagakkai (a Buddhist religious organization--ed) as part of this national consensus. Although this agreement has been kept from coming into full play due to the obstruction created by the Komei Party and the confusion among the Sokagakkai leadership, the following points agreed upon in the agreement, that is, "peace and a total ban on nuclear weapons" and "defense of democracy and against fascism," are correct in the past and at present and will be part of the national consensus in future.

On the recent international situation, Chairman Miyamoto first stressed that on the Cambodia problem, the party center of the Japanese Communist Party has taken steps including expression of solidarity with the Cambodian National United Front for National Salvation and the new government, on the basis of a correct judgment after investigation and analysis of the situation, including on-the-spot investigation by AKAHATA correspondents there. Chairman Miyamoto criticized the Japanese Government for lack of independent judgment, as it could not show any ground for the allegation of "Vietnam being involved." Citing facts, Miyamoto elucidated the reason why the Pol Pot regime collapsed so quickly.

On the recent tension between China and Vietnam on the border, JCP Presidium Chairman Miyamoto stressed the importance of the proposal made on 5 February by the JCP to the government that the government should urge Deng Ziaoping [Teng Hsiao-ping], visiting Chinese Vice Premier, to settle the tension by negotiations. Pointing out that the cruel administration by the Pol Pot regime and the situation created by the "Great Cultural Revolution" in China--which run counter to the idea of socialism--have been used in anti-communist attacks, Miyamoto said that problems of socialism and reality should be elucidated more deeply, based on the viewpoint set out in the 14th Party Congress of the Japanese Communist Party, that is, that "socialism is in the era of creation."

On the problem of relations between the Japanese Communist Party and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the JCP presidium chairman referred to the issue of the recently reported USSR military bases on Kunashiri and Etorofu Islands, saying that the JCP will make public its own independent view and also submit a draft resolution to the Diet. On the territorial question, Miyamoto clarified the antipeople nature of article 2, clause C, is the only course to pave the way for the return to Japan of the whole of Chishima Islands, including Kunashiri and Etorofu Islands.

Chairman Miyamoto said that the fact that the improvement of relations between the communist parties of Japan and the Soviet Union is being discussed does not mean that the Japanese Communist Party will shelve the territorial issue. On the Shiga clique problem, Chairman Miyamoto said that the Shiga clique, a holdover from the interference (by the CPSU--ed), has already degraded to a very tiny group, and thus the Japanese people have already handed down a judgment, but it constitutes even today obstruction on the way of improving relations between the communist parties of Japan and the Soviet Union. The relations cannot advance so long as this issue is left unsolved, the JCP presidium chairman said. [JPS says "to be continued"]

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Conclusion of Speech

Tokyo JPS in English 0917 GMT 8 Feb 79 OW

["Chairman Miyamoto's speech in Sixth CC plenum (continued, second and final part)"--JPS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, 8 Feb (JPS)--On the local elections, Chairman Miyamoto said the JCP now holds 3,305 seats in local assemblies, the highest number in the party's records. The base of the pyramidal organization is being consolidated. In the off-year elections last year, the JCP increased its assembly seats by 74, an achievement surpassing that of other parties, and in the achievements since January this year the JCP increased 10 seats, competing with the Liberal Democratic Party for the top, and raising the people's hopes in the JCP.

As to the tasks in the simultaneous local elections, Chairman Miyamoto raised two points: 1) To increase the number of communist assemblymen; 2) to win victories in the elections of heads of local governments. Referring to the recent seven gubernatorial elections, Chairman Miyamoto said the characteristic features in them are that except for in the election battle in Ishikawa Prefecture, the Japan Socialist Party lost its fighting spirit and did not contribute sincere efforts for the unity of the progressive forces. Consequently, only the JCP stood firmly against the conservative forces, challenging their reactionary politics. Miyamoto then stressed the significance of adherence to the progressive cause.

Chairman Miyamoto referred to the recent party heads conference between the communist and the socialist parties. Referring to the metropolitan Tokyo gubernatorial election, he said that the JCP has insisted on holding a meeting of the association for a bright and progressive metropolitan administration as soon as possible, to discuss the recommendation of a candidate and the question of a policy agreement. On the arguments for reorganization of the association or for changing its name, being advanced in a new guise, Chairman Miyamoto said they are the most tenuous and irresponsible arguments aimed at undoing the gains made in past struggles... they should be brought forward on the meeting floor of the association to be discussed.

On the Osaka gubernatorial election, Chairman Miyamoto said that candidate Sakae Kishi, backed by the reactionary forces of the LDP, the Komei and the Democratic Socialist parties, is a possessor of extremely conservative inclination who had supported the Self-Defense Forces by taking the position of an advisor of the "Association To Understand the SDF." He said that it is clearly impossible for the JSP, which stands for unarmed neutrality, to support him.

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Chairman Miyamoto stressed the marked significance of the fifth central committee plenum, which indicated the way for a new advance by discussing the fundamental question of the leadership to fresh and invigorate (?the original) intention and good will of all party members. Chairman Miyamoto explained the advances and problems in party activities since the fifth central committee plenum, including: 1) The improvement in party activities in the student branches, and the movements of the Democratic Youth League of Japan and of (?defying) bureaucracy and centralism; 2) the advance in educational activities; 3) the expansion of the AKAHATA readership since the turn of the year, and the founding of the periodical PUBLIC SQUARE FOR FEMALES; and 4) the distribution of pamphlets to fight dirty anticommunist attacks.

By the end of January, the circulation of AKAHATA increased by 70,000 copies, and the clean-up pamphlets rebuffing the anticommunist attacks by renegade Satomi Hakamadi and others have sold 1,350,000 copies since the fifth central committee plenum, breaking the level of 4,000,000 copies in all, the chairman reported. He said further that steps have been taken to increase the distribution of these pamphlets to meet requirements, taking into account the fixed number of votes to be obtained in the local elections.

In conclusion, Chairman Miyamoto called on the plenum to achieve a new height in the simultaneous local elections, and to make continual advances in the national election expected to be held in the autumn.

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

BRIEFS

JAPAN-SRV FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION--Tokyo, 5 Feb--The Japan-Vietnam Friendship Association held a standing director meeting on 3 February, confirming the further strengthening of the movement for solidarity with the Vietnamese people. The meeting particularly discussed the "new political climate of anti-Vietnam, anti-communist and anti-socialist campaigns carried on by the Japanese forces of reaction, who are availing themselves of the Cambodian issue and other issues." The meeting decided to actively carry on the following activities: 1) to make known the truth of the Cambodian issue to the Japanese people; 2) to oppose the Japanese Government, which is attempting to freeze Japan's economic aid to Vietnam by availing itself of demagoguery on the Cambodian issue and other issues. [Text] [Tokyo JPS in English 0900 GMT 5 Feb 79 OW]

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ECONOMIC

PRC WANTS JAPANESE INTERMEDIARIES FOR TRADE WITH TAIWAN

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 3 Feb 79 p 1

[Text] With PRC Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping's visit to the United States, the chances for peacefully moving toward reunification with Taiwan have improved. According to information from informed sources on 2 February, PRC government personnel have requested Japanese trading companies to try to connect a pipeline between PRC and Taiwan. Specifically, it is said that Nissho Iwai was asked about a relay trade to handle exports of Taiwanese chemical products and raw materials to the PRC. This move, it seems, is based on a decision that, although normalization of Sino-American relations has created a political framework for reunification with Taiwan, it would be appropriate and would promote reunification if the PRC, as a moderately developed country, were to proceed with China's internal task of the four modernizations by making use of the strength of Taiwan's remarkably developed economy and not by relying only on the economic strength of Japan and the United States.

Taiwan chemical products have been produced by a national company (China Petrochemicals) with the technical cooperation of the very large American firm UCC (Union Carbide). Consequently, these products are of high quality and are cost competitive. This, it seems, is the reason for the PRC request.

The PRC is buying petrochemical related equipment in the form of equipment to break down ethylene and facilities to handle derived products. Immense plants capable of producing as much as 1.6 million tons yearly have been purchased from Japanese and European makers; but, even after their completion, these plants are expected to be operating no earlier than 1982. There is, consequently, a growing need for Taiwan products which have surplus export capability.

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Since the long term trade agreement, the relative importance of equipment for the Shanghai-Baoshan steel mill and matters related to petrochemicals have overshadowed all else in business talks on plants. The Baoshan steel mill is scheduled to be completed in 1980 at the earliest; and, as a stopgap measure, the volume of Japan's steel exports to the PRC exceeded the volume of exports to the United States. This background, too, seems to lend impetus to business talks of this kind, but Nissho Iwai has taken a cautious approach, saying that "there are still many questions unresolved." They recognize, however, that the PRC's needs are growing and they do not deny that positive developments in business negotiations could be possible if only an objective situation is established. It is said that footholds not only for Taiwan exports to the PRC but for PRC exports to Taiwan as well have been started among the ethnic Chinese in Hong Kong and that Japanese firms have also been asked to cooperate in this. Reportedly, not only Nissho Iwai but other trading companies as well have been sounded out on a relay for electronics, steel and other things in which Taiwan is strong. Among Japanese economic circles as a whole there is a very hopeful feeling that it would be delightful to be able to contribute to a thaw between the PRC and Taiwan and, therefore, the spotlight is on the people of Taiwan to see which way they will go.

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9111

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ECONOMIC

MITI SAYS U.S.-JAPAN TRADE TREND REVERSING

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 9 Feb 79 p 5

[Text]

Editor's note: Japan's trade surplus with the United States topped a staggering \$11,572 million in calendar year 1978, a sharp increase over the \$8,100 million surplus in 1977. The yawning trade deficit with Japan, coupled with lackluster economic indicators of the U.S., is adding to the frustration of Americans.

And now, it appears, Japan is once again the target of all sorts of criticism — the Japanese market is closed to the outside world; the government is taking a "buy Japanese

policy"; and businessmen are raining down their exports on foreign markets.

But the figures recently prepared by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) show that a solid turnaround has finally come in the unbalanced pattern of trade between Japan and the United States. Japan's imports grew while exports leveled off, or even declined on some controversial items, such as autos, TVs and iron and steel.

"This is the point we want to make. At the moment, however,

all the arguments are circulating around the total trade surplus of this country, which is in no way small. But the recent trend has it that our surplus will decline sharply this year," said a top official of MITI's international trade policy bureau.

The following are excerpts from MITI's recent report, "The Trend of Japan's Trade With U.S." In this report, MITI argues that a solid turnaround in the pattern of Japan-U.S. trade came during the last quarter of 1978 (October-December).

1. Basic Change In U.S.-Japan Trade

Since the spring of 1978, it has become clear that Japan's exports to the U.S. have stagnated, while Japan's imports from the U.S. have steadily increased. This tendency has become more pronounced quarter by quarter.

2. Stagnation Of Japan's Exports

The rate of increase of Japanese exports to the U.S., in terms of yen, has gradually declined; the rates of increase in the 3rd quarter (July-September) and 4th quarter (October-December) over a

year ago were minus 11 percent, respectively.

In terms of U.S. dollars, exports have nominally increased at a higher rate due to the rapid appreciation of the yen. This tendency, however, has recently declined.

If the exchange rate of the yen against the U.S. dollar becomes stable, the trend of the exports in terms of U.S. dollars will become similar to the one in terms of yen. (See table 1)

3. Increase Of Japan's Imports From U.S.

Japan's imports from the

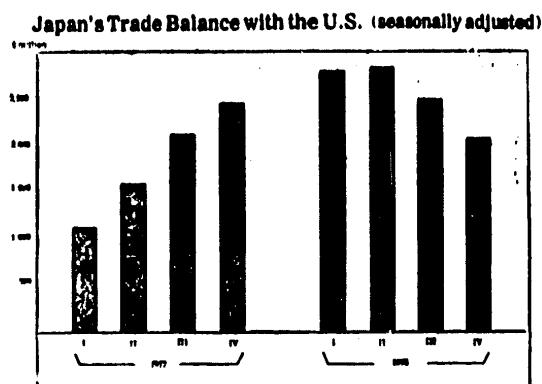
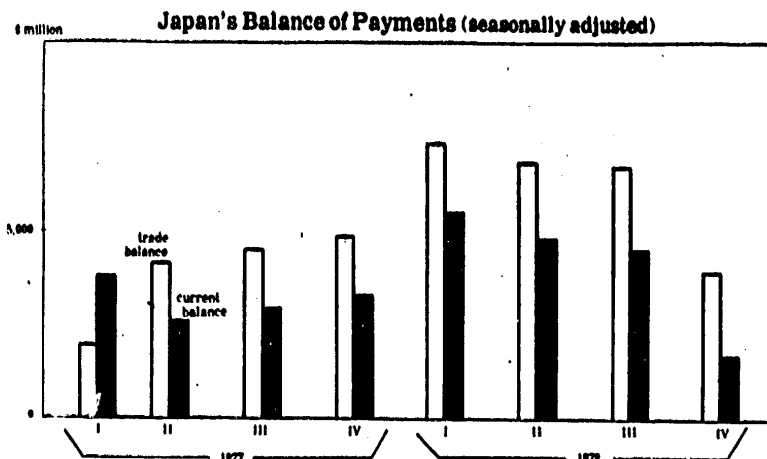
U.S. have been steadily increasing; in terms of U.S. dollars, the rate of increase in the 4th quarter of this year over a year ago was 43 percent, exceeding the rate of increase of Japan's exports in the same period. (See table 2)

4. Japan's Exports And Imports To U.S. Compared With Previous Period

Comparing the figures of Japan's trade with the U.S. with those in the previous period, Japan's exports in terms of U.S. dollars have clearly stagnated. On the other hand, Japan's imports have gradually increased. In other words, during

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the 3rd quarter and the 4th quarter, 1978, Japan's exports to the U.S. have already been increased remarkably. (See table 3)

5. US Trade Balance With Japan

The deficit of the U.S. trade balance with Japan in 1977 and 1978 was \$8.0 billion and \$11.6 billion, respectively (U.S. statistics). However, the deficit (seasonally adjusted) has decreased since the 2nd quarter of 1978, and the monthly deficits decreased to \$870 million in October, \$655 million in November, and \$713 million in December.

If the exchange rate of the yen against the U.S. dollar is stabilized, the deficit of the U.S. trade balance with Japan will decline remarkably. (See table 4)

6. Increase Of Japan's Manufactured Goods Imports

(1) Together with the rapid increase of Japan's imports from the U.S., its imports of U.S. manufactured goods have significantly increased. Accordingly, the ratio of imports of manufactured goods to the imports has risen. (See table 5)

(2) The increase of manufactured goods has appeared in a wide range of capital goods, consumer goods

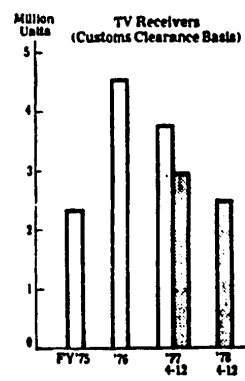
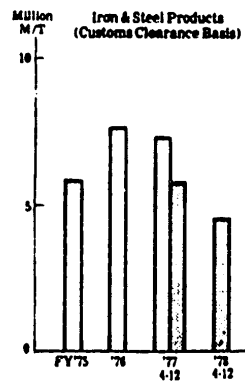
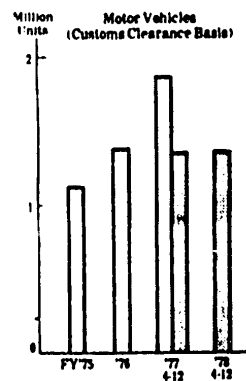
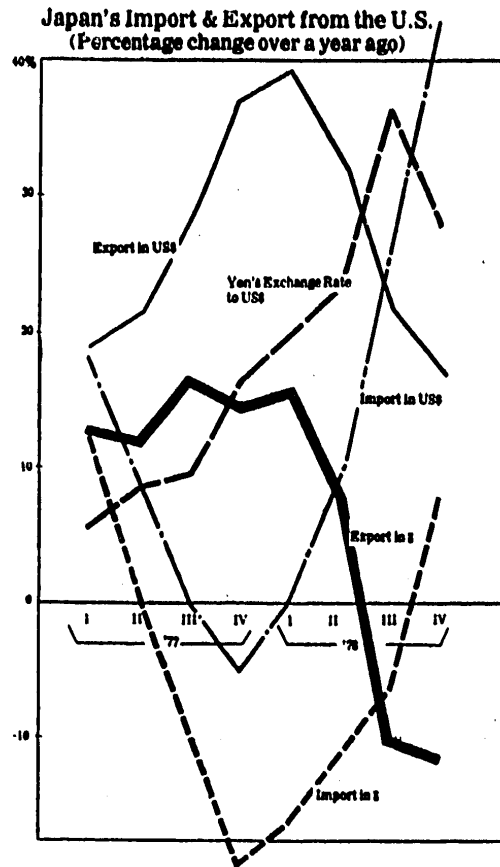
and intermediate goods, especially heavy electrical machinery, telecommunication equipment, furniture, organic chemicals, and so on. (See table 6)

(3) As the rate of increase of Japan's total importation of manufactured goods has been higher than that of its imports from the U.S., the share of U.S. manufactured goods in total Japanese imports of manufactured goods has fallen.

This fact indicates a large possibility for the U.S. to further expand the sales of their manufactured goods in the Japanese market. (See table 7)

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27

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Table 1: Rate of increase of Japan's export to the U.S. over a year ago (1978):

	1st qr.	2nd qr.	3rd qr.	4th qr.
Export, in terms of Yen (A)	16%	8%	-11%	-12%
Exchange Rate (yen/dollar) (B)	20	24	36	28
Export, in terms of US\$ (C)	39	33	22	16
(Note): $(1 + A/100) \times (1 + B/100) = (1 + C/100)$				

Table 2: Rate of increase of Japan's exports and imports over a year ago (1978):

	1st qr.	2nd qr.	3rd qr.	4th qr.
Imports	0.3%	9%	28%	43%
Exports	39	33	22	16

Table 3: Rate of increase of Japan's exports to and imports from the U.S. in terms of U.S. dollars (1978) over the previous period:

(Seasonally adjusted)				
	1st qr.	2nd qr.	3rd qr.	4th qr.
Export	10%	4%	1%	0.4%
Import	7	7	13	11
(Note): The same tendency is shown in the U.S. statistics (1978)				
Export	12%	8%	1%	
Import	-5	24	20	

Table 4: The deficit of U.S. trade balance with Japan in 1978:

(Seasonally adjusted for quarterly figures)					
(in US\$ billion)					
	1st qr.	2nd qr.	3rd qr.	(Oct.)	(Nov.) (Dec.)
	3.3	3.0	2.8	0.87	0.66 0.71

Table 5: The trend of Japan's imports of U.S. manufactured goods:

	1976	1977	1978	(in percentage)	
				1978	1978
				(3rd qr.)	(4th qr.)
Rate of increase of total imports over a year ago	2	5	17	28	43
Rate of increase of manufactured goods over a year ago	11	4	27	30	52
Ratio of manufactured goods imports to total imports	38	38	41	40	43

Table 6: Main manufactured goods whose imports have recently increased. (The rate of increase in terms of U.S. dollars for the first 11 months of 1978 over a year earlier):

Capital goods	Consumer goods	Intermediate goods
Telecommunication apparatus 104%	Toys, indoor games..... 80%	Nonferrous metals..... 122%
Aircraft 59	Furniture..... 67	Organic chemicals 51
Integrated circuits..... 47	Records 56	Photographic and cinematographic supplies 29
Electric power machinery..... 38	Sporting goods..... 47	Plastic materials..... 27
Electric measuring and controlling instruments ... 33	Textile goods .. 47	Medical and pharmaceutical products..... 23
Scientific, medical, optical instruments, etc..... 27	Musical instruments ... 45	
	Books 37	

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Table 7: The trend of Japan's imports of manufactured goods:

	1976	1977	1978
Rate of increase of manufactured goods imports over a year			
from the world	19%	9%	30%
from the U.S.	11	4	30
Share of the imports of U.S. manufactured goods to the total manufactured goods imports.....	32	31	29

(Please note that the figures for December, 1978, used in this analysis are still provisional.)

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ECONOMIC

'MAINICHI': JAPAN CONCERNED ABOUT PRC TRADE POLICY

Tokyo MAINICHI SHINBUN in Japanese 22 Feb 79 morning edition p 7 OW

[Text] A government source on 21 February disclosed that a subtle change has come about in China's attitude toward trade with Japan. This is evidenced by the virtual suspension of the large-scale trade negotiations on exporting equipment for Shanghai's Baoshan steel complex. China had been very eager to import steel mill equipment from Japanese firms, mainly the Nippon Steel Corporation. The Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] and foreign ministry officials are maintaining contact with Japanese companies in order to determine the Chinese intentions and reasons for any change. If the change has been brought about by a foreign currency shortage resulting from increased imports of war materials due to tense Sino-Vietnamese relations, the Chinese banking delegation led by Niu Xuanqi, manager of the international department of the People's Bank of China, is expected to give a clue to the change when it arrives for talks in Japan on 22 February. Therefore, Japanese officials are interested in the delegation's visit to Japan and its attitude in the coming talks.

According to the same government source, China has suddenly suspended import negotiations or has become less eager about signing trade contracts for the following projects:

1. Port cargo facilities, harbor transportation facilities, the oxygen generating plant for the Shanghai Baoshan steel complex--to be exported by the Japan Steel Corporation.
2. Equipment for the Tangshan power plant--to be exported by Hitachi Ltd.
3. A cement plant--to be exported by Ishikawajima--Harima Heavy Industries Company.
4. Coal mining cooperation projects sought by Japanese coal companies.

The government source said, "according to Japanese firms, since early February, China has suddenly become less enthusiastic about negotiations for Japanese imports. On 17 January in Tokyo, the Chinese delegation virtually

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suspended negotiations with the Japan Petroleum Company on the development of undersea petroleum deposits in the Bohai Gulf. This occurred a short time before an agreement was to be initialed. The Chinese negotiating team said, "We are returning home upon the instructions from the home government. We do not know when the negotiations will resume." Commenting on this development, the government source said, "The negotiations were nearing the initialing stage. The only outstanding problem was Japan's conditions for financing. We are surprised by the sudden change in the Chinese attitude. This is not in keeping with international practice."

MITI and foreign ministry officials have made the following interpretation of China's complete change in policy.

1. China is correcting its overreliance on Japan in the wake of the normalization of Sino-U.S. relations.
2. China is trying to apply political pressure because of Japan's reluctance to advance export loans to China.
3. China is using cash to import urgent war materials, creating a fund shortage for the import of nonwar materials and equipment. This in turn has suppressed imports from Japan. These officials will make a further analysis of the development later.

China's foreign exchange reserve is reportedly about \$2.5 billion, of which \$1.5 billion will be used to settle import accounts due this year, including: 1) \$700 million due to European countries and Japan carried forward from last year and 2) an \$800 million down payment for \$3.7 billion worth of import contracts signed under the Japan-China long-term trade agreement last year.

Thus, our foreign exchange banks have firmed up a plan to advance a \$2 billion syndicated loan to the People's Bank of China under the following conditions:

1. A handling charge of 0.625 to 0.5 percent per annum will be added to the interest (approximately 12 percent a year), which is equivalent to the interest rate on 3-month loans in the Euromarket.
2. The People's Bank of China will be the borrower and the term will be for 5 to 7 years.
3. China will use this loan to pay for imports.

Not only exchange bank authorities but also government officials and business firms are interested in the talks with the Chinese banking delegation which is due here on 22 February because the delegation's attitude in the talks is expected to shed light on the reasons behind the virtual suspension of trade negotiations and on China's future attitude toward Japan.

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31

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ECONOMIC

KANSAI ELECTRIC POWER SURVEY ON PROSPECTS TO YEAR 2000

Nature and Results of Survey

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 9 Jan 79 p 8

[Text] Kansai Electric Power (president: Shoichiro Kobayashi) conducted an opinion poll of a group of 207 "noncompany intellectuals" consisting principally of men of experience and learning living in the Kinki [Osaka-Kyoto] area. The findings of the survey which queried "Predicted Social Conditions to Year 2000" were finalized on the 8th.

The survey which was carried out late last year is intended to serve as the basis for putting together a "long-range plan" on what Kansai Electric Power and the electric utility industry should be like by the 21st Century. Recognizing that "the company is a member of society" (president Kobayashi) the perspectives of noncompany intellectuals on presumed conditions were sought.

The survey concluded that the year 2000 will see such changes as increased leisure and a more important role for third parties such as consumers and local society in labor-management relations. Nevertheless, the outlook is generally "optimistic," forecasting continued steady economic growth at a rate of about 4.7 percent (between the years 1975 and 2000), with investment in the living environment providing the impetus for economic development. As to the topic of energy, conservation is expected to total only about 10 percent, and in the supply of energy the era of massive and highly advanced fossil fuel and atomic energy technology (hard path) is expected to continue.

The survey covered six items: (1) the international and domestic political and economic structure; (2) shifts in the social consciousness; (3) shifts in employee consciousness and future labor-management relations; (4) the future "vision" for the Kinki area; (5) energy development; (6) the electric power industry.

Under item 1, 47 percent of those surveyed gave investment in the living environment, such as public and housing investment, as the prime mover in

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economic development. Concerning Japanese economic relations with Europe and America, most anticipate no basic change, with 58 percent predicting an increase in noneconomic exchanges in such areas as culture, etc.

With respect to item 2, an overwhelming majority point to an increase in leisure, 55 percent anticipating summer vacations of 0.5 month. On the other hand, with respect to item 3, while foreseeing a later retirement age (62 percent saying age 62), it is noteworthy that most predict a weakening of the lifelong employment system and the rewards according to seniority system (83 percent and 92 percent respectively).

By contrast, under item 4, 66 percent see a continuation in the decline of relative importance of the Kinki region, giving as reasons the lack of a central information facility and insufficient ties with the central government. An overwhelming majority (76 percent propose a new Kansai area airport (both as necessary and as feasible) for a major project as part of the solution. Although 59 percent recognize the need to convert the Kii Peninsula into an energy base, only 24 percent see such a project as feasible, a considerable disparity.

As to item 5, energy development, only a very small number--6 percent see new energy sources (such as solar or wind powered energy) as feasible. An overwhelming majority hold the view that the mainstream of primary energy will change little, 54 percent predicting it to be oil and 39 percent nuclear energy. Regarding the timetable for the advent of oil shortages, it is noteworthy that, while 62 percent expect shortages to occur between 1986 and 1990, 39 percent anticipate no shortages. In nuclear energy development, 56 percent expect continued tough going, but only 3 percent forecast failure, and most expect nuclear energy to step into the leading role.

Relative to item 6, as a desirable corporate stance for the year 2000 86 percent, an overwhelming majority, would support a posture from which the industry would speak out clearly, oblivious to public opinion, on issues of concern. Also conspicuously large is the number who view the current image of Kansai Electric Power as closed and indifferent.

The survey polled 207 people in all (ages 30-50 years) including scholars (100), novelists (10), local government planners (10), people from industry (40), consumers (10), people in labor circles (10), and journalists (10). Replies were received from 159, 77 percent.

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Tabulated Responses To Survey

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 10 Jan 79 p 5

[Original paragraphing not followed]

A. The international and domestic political and economic structure

1. The pattern of economic development	(percent)
*Living environment investment pattern	47
*Processing trade, manufacturers export pattern	23
*Capital export pattern	7
*Heavy and chemical industry dominated pattern	6
*Cultural industry dominated pattern	4
2. Prospects for growth	
*Feasible growth rate for 1975-1985--5.4 percent	
*Desirable growth rate for same period--6.3 percent	
*Feasible growth rate for 1985-2000--4.2 percent	
*Desirable growth rate for same period--5.2 percent	
*Feasible growth rate for 1975-2000--4.7 percent	
*Desirable growth rate for the same period--5.7 percent	
3. The main causes of limited growth	
*Rapid increases in the cost of energy and raw materials	57
*Deterioration of the trade balance and decreased exports due to advances by moderately developed nations	51
*Aging of the labor force and stagnation in the rationalization of technology to compensate	40
*Deterioration of the commercial environment through import regulations, etc.	38
*Problems in industrial siting	29
*Environmental problems	26
4. The social consequences of slow growth	
*Increased unemployment	65
*Decreased adaptability to the environment in energy conversion, etc.	49
*Decreased social investment	41
*Inability to cope with the tax burden required for old age compensation	23
5. The market structure	
*Continued concentration of enterprises	54
*Creation of oligopolistic markets	18
*Intensified competition	15
*No change	10

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6. Market activities	(percent)
*Restriction of corporate activities by government regulation and intervention	36
*Intensification of nonprice competition	30
*Increased cooperative actions between enterprises	25
*Intensification of price competition	17
7. Leading industries of the year 2000	
*Secondary industries: Electronic equipment	32
Home electrical	3
Precision machinery	8
Computers	7
Aircraft	4
Plants	3
Automobile	2
Housing related	9
*Tertiary industries: Information services	21
Knowledge industry	5
Computers (software)	4
Think tanks	2
Consultants	2
Leisure related	11
Fashion	4
Culture	4
Education	13
Distribution and commerce	5
Communication	5
8. East-West relations by the year 2000	
*Essentially unchanged from today	58
*Increased tensions but no war	19
*Relaxed tensions with peaceful coexistence	12
9. Economic relations between Japan, Europe, and America	
*Essentially unchanged	47
*Increased friction	33
*Smoother	15
10. The Middle East situation by the year 2000	
*No solution, but increased compromise	55
*Continued instability	27
*Continued intense confrontation	7
*Renewed Middle East war	6
*Settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict	1
11. Measures for insuring Japan's survival in such a world environment	
*Ensuring energy supplies	26
*Strengthened cooperation with various other nations in the area of capital	19

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	(percent)
*Cultural exchange	15
*Bolstered defense capabilities	9
*Intensified research and development	21
12. LDP monopoly political power	
*Cannot be maintained	66
*Can be maintained	20
13. Political control	
*A conservative coalition	58
*A conservative-liberal coalition	23
*A moderate-right wing coalition	10
B. Shifts in the social consciousness	
1. Weight of consumption and saving	
*Trend toward consumption	54
*Trend toward saving	21
*No change	20
2. Household budgetary expenditure objectives	
*Education and leisure	79
*Housing related	64
*Food, including dining out	16
*Clothing and fashion	7
3. Participants in consumer and citizen movements	
*Housewives	83
*The elderly	37
*Salaried wage-earners	33
*Professional protestors	33
*Political groups	29
*Students	21
4. Individual life style (objectives)	
*Psychological fulfillment	63
*Interrelationships with others	36
*Maintenance of the status quo	51
*Priority on leisure	53
5. Future goals of society	
*A functional society in which the individual can develop his individuality and abilities	34
*A society with fair and equal opportunities for all	20
*A rising living standard	17
*Full achievement of well-being	14

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		(Percent)
C. Shifts in employee consciousness and labor-management relations		
1. Factors that have contributed greatly to stable labor-management relations in Japan in the past		
*The life-long employment system		67
*The enterprise union system		51
*Rank and salary based on seniority		32
*The sense of the union as a part of the company		29
*Daily communication between top labor and management		17
*The employee view of the company as family		17
*The will to place first priority on one's occupation		14
2. The life-long employment system		
*Will weaken		83
*No change		11
3. Reasons for weakening in the life-long employment system		
*The inability of corporations to bear the burden of personnel expenses		38
*Changes in the age structure of the work force		26
*General adoption of layoffs in the U.S. style		5
4. The effects of the aging of the work force on firms		
*Personnel and organizational stagnation		83
*Business constraints due to increased wages and retirement compensation		73
*Difficulties in providing jobs for older employees		60
*Older worker's experience will be made the most of		18
*Increased loyalty		3
5. The retirement system		
*Later retirement		36
*Reemployment after retirement (retirement age unchanged)		29
*A retirement system tailored to individuals		13
*Earlier retirement		6
*No change		4
6. The retirement age in the year 2000		
*60 to 62		62
*65 or older		15
*57 to 59		6
*63 to 65		5
*55 or 56		4
7. The effects on the corporation of the trend toward higher education		
*Worsening conditions for possessors of higher degrees		71
*Intensified competition for management positions		42

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		(percent)
	*Fewer pure laborers	39
	*Improved quality in the labor force	17
	*Increased dissatisfaction with wages	9
8.	Occupational goals in the year 2000	
	*Securing certain income	men 50 women 25
	*Realizing individual talents	men 45 women 28
	*Increased enjoyment of life	men 30 women 70
	*To contribute to society	men 25 women 4
	*Harmony between interests and occupation	men 18 women 26
	*Upward mobility	men 14 women 0
9.	Inroads of women into the work world	
	*Back and forth movement between home and job will become common	50
	*Fundamental progress will be achieved in entering the work force	32
	*Not much change	16
	*Women will remain in the home	1
D.	Energy development	
1.	The pattern of the energy supply by the year 2000	
	*Primarily hard path (massive and highly advanced fossil fuel and atomic energy technology)	76
	*Almost exclusively hard path	12
	*Primarily soft path (energy conservation or recycl- able sources such as solar or wind-powered energy)	6
	*Unable to say	5
	*Almost exclusively soft path	0
2.	Reasons for negating soft path course	
	*Cost and difficulty of technological development	60
	*Ineffectiveness of energy conservation if discretionary and strength of resistance to conservation enforced by law	40
	*Impossibility of centralized control of soft, path, leading to efficiency and safety problems	26
	*Even if Japan conserves energy, it will merely be used by other nations to their advantage	6

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	(percent)
3. Reasons for negating hard path course	
*Modern civilization, which has run counter to nature in its massive energy consumption, will be hit a deadend	34
*It merely postpones the exhaustion of resources	29
*The effect on the environment from such things as carbon monoxide and thermal pollution is too great	29
*Difficulty of funding the development and utilization of hard path sources	15
4. Effectiveness of energy conservation measures	
*Little hope of substantive results even though some degree of conservation is achieved	89
*Sharp reductions are possible through conservation	11
*No effect	1
5. Rate of energy conservation by the year 2000	
*6-10 percent	35
*16-20 percent	12
*0-5 percent	12
*11-15 percent	11
*26-30 percent	4
*Over 30 percent	1
*21-25 percent	0
6. Policies for increasing the effectiveness of energy conservation	
*Legislated incentive and regulatory policies such as via taxation, etc.	48
*Increased cost with increased use	35
*Dissemination of conservation information and encouragement of cooperation	15
7. Japan's primary energy source by the year 2000	
*Oil	54
*Atomic energy	39
*Hydropower, geothermal	3
*Coal	2
*New energy sources, primarily solar energy	1
8. Outlook for the construction of coal fired power plants	
*Not much progress	59
*Substantial progress, though secondary to nuclear power	29
*No progress	8
*Sufficient progress to outstrip nuclear power	3

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	(percent)
9. Outlook for the development of nuclear energy	
*Tough going	56
*Smooth progress	38
*Development will reach a standstill	3
10. Reasons for difficulties in [nuclear energy development	
*Local citizen opposition	49
*Rapid rises in the cost of development	16
*Occurrence of accidents harmful to the environment	14
*International restrictions on development	8
*Adverse public opinion	5
11. Outlook for the advent of oil shortages	
*Anticipate shortages	61
*Anticipate no shortages	39
12. Timetable for the occurrence of shortages	
*Between 1986 and 1990	62
*Between 1981 and 1985	11
*Between 1996 and 2000	8
*Between 1991 and 1995	5
*After 2000	4
*Between 1975 and 1980	1
13. Manifestation of shortage	
*Large price increases	48
*Absolute shortage	42
14. Reasons for the advent of shortages	
*Slow development of alternate sources	68
*Insufficient new oil discoveries	54
*Intensified reductions in OPEC production	45
*Large growth in energy consumption	41
*Transformation of Soviet Union to an oil importing nation	26
*Outbreak of war or such	14
*Increased oil imports by the U. S.	13
15. Prerequisites for the avoidance of oil shortages	
*Development of alternative energy sources	71
*Increased production in non-OPEC areas	55
*Progress in conservation on internationally	45
*Blunting of energy consumption	36
*Increased new discoveries	33
*Decreased U. S. oil imports	4
*Maintenance of Soviet Union's oil export capability	2

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	(percent)
16. The future course of the OPEC nations	
*A trend toward disunion	47
*A trend toward harmony	34
17. The OPEC policy of reduced oil production	
*Production will be geared to world consumption	51
*A deliberate policy of reduced production will be followed	44
18. The OPEC pricing policy	
*Prices will rise enough to compensate for price rises on imported goods and declining [value of] foreign currency holdings	49
*Prices will match world inflation	19
*Prices will rise at about the same rate as that of imported goods	17
*Prices will rise as greatly as possible	13
19. Actions of consumer nations in the event of world oil shortages	
*Each will follow an independent defense policy having its own interests as first priority	64
*Consumer nations will band together	29
20. Japan's weakness in the event of oil shortages	
*Weakness in friendly relations with resource countries	40
*Policies lack consistency	31
*Insufficient independent development	19
*Weak defense capabilities	5
*Weak ties with the majors	4
21. Method of internal allocation in times of shortages	
*Quota system	16
*A free trade system	16
22. Oil quota method	
*Place priority on industrial use	50
*Place priority on public welfare	25
23. Allocation for industrial use	
*Place priority on strategic industries	64
*Uniform system	24
24. The tradeoff between energy, development and environmental protection	
*The problem is to determine whether to develop energy or to protect the environment	59

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	(percent)
*The importance of energy development requires it have top priority	30
*Top priority should be placed on environmental protection	7
25. The need for citizen involvement pursuant to energy development	
*More than now	66
*No change	27
*Less than now	7
26. The effect of such citizen involvement	
*Delays in construction schedules	56
*A positive contribution to the developmental progress	36
*Hardly any effect	4
27. Outlook for community electrical generation (small scale electrical generation utilizing heat produced by garbage incineration)	
*Progress in construction due to the possibility of constructive use of discarded substances	41
*Lack of progress in construction due to the high cost of such electrical generation methods	21
*Insufficient citizen support due to environmental considerations	15
*Progress in construction due to the logic of the rubbish disposal aspect alone	15

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IRAQ DEGASSING PLANTS--Related sources disclosed on 13 February that the Iraqi National Oil Company's southern oil bureau had recently placed an order with two Japanese firms--Niigata Tekkosho and Marubeni--for three degassing plants worth \$25 million. The deal calls for completion of the plants 1 year after signing the contract. [Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHINBUN in Japanese 14 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 5 OW]

SINGAPORE REFINERY EXPANSION--The Japanese engineering firm Nikki on 15 February signed a 14-billion-yen contract with Singapore Refining Co. to increase the latter's present oil refining capacity of 70,000 barrels a day to 170,000 barrels. The project will be completed by late December 1980. The Singapore company's present facilities were built by Nikki in 1973. [Tokyo ASAHI SHINBUN in Japanese 16 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 8 OW]

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SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL

BUBBLE METHOD RECLAIMS SEABED METALLIC RESOURCES

Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English 19 Feb 79 p 2

[Text]

SENDAI (Kyodo) — A group of research chemists here has developed a "bubble method" by which metallic resources at the bottom of the sea can be reclaimed.

Though still at an experimental stage, the method is quite promising, especially for resource-short Japan, observers here said.

It was developed by Masabu Watanumi and his team at the Tohoku Industrial Research Institute of the Agency of Industrial Science and Technology.

They said vanadium, nickel, molybdenum, nickel, cobalt and other highly valuable metals were recovered by the method from used catalysts.

"The recovery rate was 100 percent," Watanumi said.

The catalysts were from oil refineries, for which there was no use other than dumping them as landfill. If not properly handled, such waste catalysts pose environmental hazards.

Under the method, acid is added to granulated catalysts to melt the metals.

Fatty acid is added in the aqueous solution, causing a mass of bubbles to appear on the solution's surface.

By adjusting the pH composition (acidity and alkalinity), the metals are attracted to the bubbles.

The bubbles are collected and the metals are separated through electrolysis.

Catalysts are being used in abundance in oil refineries, chemical and automotive industries.

The new salvaging method has successfully been applied on "manganese lumps" or the treasure of the seas that the industrialized nations are vying to exploit.

In a test, all the metals contained in the lumps — including copper, nickel and cobalt — were extracted to 100 percent, Watanumi said.

"We are now exploring possibilities of obtaining cheaper chemical agents for the method, and studying other details in order to make use of the method on a commercial basis," he said.

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BRIEFS

LIGHT AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY--The Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] plans to develop a light aircraft manufacturing industry so as to help Japan catch up with other advanced nations in this field. The MITI plan calls for initial efforts on development of technology for manufacturing small passenger planes for up to 20 passengers and later for the establishment of an annual capacity of 10,000 units in the near future. The ministry eventually plans to develop this into an export industry. To this end, the ministry plans to set up a research and development council under the Japan Aeronautics and Space Industry Association. The council will conduct basic feasibility surveys. [Tokyo TOKYO SHINBUN in Japanese 11 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 3 OW]

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END

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